

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SY-04 OPR-01 A-01 FBO-02 SS-15

NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CPR-01 SCA-01

USIA-06 /054 W

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R 131245Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3137

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 1744

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: VIOLATION OF USIS PREMISES

REF: STATE 032549

PER REQUEST REFTTEL, OPERATIVE PORTIONS OF PROTEST NOTE DELIVERED
TO MOFA WITH REGARD TO INVIOABILITY OF EMBASSY PREMISES ARE
AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. . .AND HAS THE HONOR TO INVITE THAT MINISTRY'S
ATTENTION TO THE EMBASSY'S AIDE MEMOIRE OF JANUARY 2,
1975, ON THE DIPLOMATIC CHARACTER OF USIS PREMISES.

THE EMBASSY WISHES TO INFORM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS THAT ON FEBRUARY 10, 1975, AT APPROXIMATELY
1030 HOURS, FOUR ETHIOPIAN SECURITY OFFICERS CAME
INTO THE PREMISES OF THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION
SERVICE BUILDING WHERE? WITHOUT ANY CONSULTATION WITH
ANY UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE OFFICIAL OR THIS
EMBASSY, THEY PLACED UNDER ARREST ATO KAHSU FESSAHAIE,
A USIS EMPLOYEE, AND REMOVED HIM IN HANDCUFFS TO AN
UNKNOWN PLACE.

THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, WHICH CONSIDERS THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION
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SERVICE PREMISES AN INTEGRAL PART OF DIPLOMATIC PREMISES

FALLING UNDER THE DEFINITION OF "PREMISES OF THE MISSION" CONTAINED IN ARTICLE I(D) OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION, IS WELL KNOWN TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ETHIOPIAN PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND WAS SET FORTH AT LENGTH IN THE ABOVE-CITED AIDE MEMOIRE. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES HEREBY PROTESTS THIS BREACH OF THE INVIOABILITY OF ITS PREMISES, OF WHICH IT TAKES A VIEW ALL THE MORE SERIOUS SINCE THE MITIGATING CONTEXTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH PREVAILED DURING THE PREVIOUS INSTANCE REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE-MENTIONED AIDE MEMOIRE DID NOT OBTAIN, AND THE ETHIOPIAN SECURITY OFFICERS INVOLVED WERE THE SAME ONES INVOLVED IN THE EVENTS DESCRIBED IN THE JANUARY 2 AIDE MEMOIRE.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REQUESTS THAT THE COMPETENT ETHIOPIAN SECURITY AUTHORITIES, WHOSE JURISDICTION OVER AN ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL IS NOT IN QUESTION, BE AGAIN INFORMED IN UNEQUIVOCAL TERMS OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSULTATION WITH USIS AND THE EMBASSY CONCERNING ANY ACTIVITY WHATSOEVER WHICH MAY BE CONTEMPLATED ON USIS PREMISES. . .UNQUOTE.

WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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